THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Tourism continues to be the same as stipulated in the National Action Plan for Tourism presented in the Parliament in May, 1992. It envisages the development of tourism through the joint efforts of the Central Government, State Governments and the Private Sector.

(c) For development of tourism infrastructure in the country, projects/schemes amounting to Rs. 5115.10 lakhs (approx.) which includes Rs. 185.00 lakhs for the State of Punjab have been prioritised for the year 1994-95.

Model Airports

357. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to start a modernisation programme to turn 12 airports in the country into model airpors and upgrode the Air Traffic services in two key international airports of Delhi and Bombay;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these airports would include extension of runways, doubling passenger handling capacity and upgarding communication and navigational aids which were in various stages of completion; and

(d) if so, the total cost of estimated amount is to be spent on turning into model airports and upgrade the facilities of airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Upgradation of airports is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon projected requirement and availability of resources. NAA have taken up the projects of developing 12 domestic airports as Model Airports at a total cost of Rs. 256.56 crores viz. Jaipur, Lucknow, Nagpur, Indore, Vadodara, Hyderabad, Coimbatore, Calicut, Patna, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati and Imphal. The programme includes construction of new terminal buildings, expansion of existing terminal buildings wherever necessary and possible extension of runway to 7500, provision of latest land aids and other operational infrastructures. The project for the modernisation of Air Traffic Services at Delhi and Bombay airports envisages, installation of modern radars and navigational aids and introduction of automation in air traffic management. The cos of modernisation of Air Traffic Services at Delhi and Bombay airports will be around Rs. 352 crores.

Nail charges at Ashoka Hotel New Delhi

358. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the normal rate of charge made at the Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi like nail charge etc. to compensate for possible damage to the concerned banquet hall from the concerned persons;

(b) whether the same charges were recovered from the persons concerned who had thrown a lavish dinner on 3rd May, 1994 vide Bill No. 1383 of the hotel; and

(c) name of person or persons who had thrown the dinner, if not, why normal nail charge etc. were not recovered and what other concessions were granted to them while letting out the Convention Hall to the private party?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) while booking the banquet parties, no charges such as nail charges are levied from the parties as per the practice in the hotel.